

THE VIRASAIVA MOVEMENT

47

above desire he lost his self ; Basavanna
was the only
one who was pure from boyhood before
God. The
process is one of effort and struggle. It may
not be
necessary actually to give up anything but
one should
"be prepared to give up everything. The
readiness is
essential. Sister Mahadevi said:

"Do not think I am a helpless woman and
threaten. I fear
nothing at your hands. I shall live on dried
leaves; and
lie on swords. Chennamallikarjuna, if you
will, I shall
give up both body and life to you, and become
pure."

Experience of loss and suffering or its
moral equi-
valent, readiness to lose or suffer, are
necessary for man
to see the divine in his own nature, God
is in our
life as the oil is in the seed; or gold in the
rock; or
Gutter in milk; or fire in wood; or fragrance
in flowers,
He cannot therefore be seen but through
stress and
strain. It is not knowledge of good, nor
thought of
good which saves but the doing of good.
Jiiana is
not enough; *Karma* is necessary. Faith is not
enough;
good works are necessary. If you think of
the sun,
will darkness go? If you think of God, will
birth go?
"God has to appear in life for the evil to
go. He
appears when we *do* the right. The fire can
burn but
•cannot move. The wind can move but
cannot burn.
Unless fire goes with wind it cannot go
forward. The
difference between work and faith is just
this. Or to
use another simile, seeing the right and
doing it are

like the co-operation of the eye and the
feet. He who
has both eyes and feet may progress. He
cannot pro-
gress who lacks either eyes or feet.

To give the mind up to God is the
source of true
happiness; Mahadeviakka said: